



Iowa  
Film  
Office



# Be Seen. Be Heard: The Voices of Iowa High School Students

## ***Student Video Project Guidelines***

### **Purpose and audience:**

- Purpose is to give students a voice in the conversation about high school reform
- Audience is other students, teachers, parents, and policymakers.  
First showing at High School Summit Dec. 11.

### **Your Film/Video must:**

- Be produced and directed by a student or group of students.
- Focus on one of the themes below:
- Be 5-8 minutes in length (edited).
- Be at the Iowa Film Office by December 4.

### **Categories – Choose one:**

- Documentary: 2-4 interviews
- Free-style: music or hip-hop video; dramatization; TV news style; comedy that include 1-4 segments.

*Both styles should address the themes; interview subjects or actors should include the listed subjects in their statements ("I got interested in this because....."; or answers can be grouped in questions with graphic headings, for instance: "How did you get interested in that?"*

### **Technical guidelines:**

- Video must be submitted on DVD (computer-based audio and video editing-> DVD master)
- Good audio quality (viewing audience able to hear and understand content)
- For documentary style interviews use a tripod for the camera; lavalier mic on talent if possible.
- Adults will be watching. No profanity or vulgar clothing or behavior please!

### **Two themes to choose from.**

1. Looking ahead: What do you want to be when you grow up (to current high schoolers)?
  - How did you get interested in that?
  - What else do you need to do to prepare?
  - What will be the hardest thing about it? The easiest?
  - What can teachers or adults do to help you?
2. Looking back: How did you get here from there (18 to 23-yr-olds)?
  - Are you happy with where you are now?
  - What do you wish you could be doing?
  - Where do you want to go next?
  - What did high school do to help you succeed?
  - What would you have done differently in high school?

Questions? Contact the Iowa Film Office, 515/242-4726; the Iowa Motion Picture Association, (Kent Newman) at [fullspectrum@mchsi.com](mailto:fullspectrum@mchsi.com), or the Iowa Department of Education at 515/281-5651.